



SOPHY & EILEEN'S CLASS BIRD FIELD GUIDE



2014



Juliette and Ben

Red Breast

Yellow beak



Dark head

Dark back

Hi, I am the American Robin! I have a red breast, a dark head and a dark back. The color of my egg can be used in poetry and paintings.



American Robin

Habitat:

- Common in gardens and yards
- Common in parks and fields
- Common in golf courses
- Common in pine forests
- Common in pastures

Physical Description:

- Yellow beak sometimes black at the tip
- Red breast
- Has red and black feathers
- Black eye

Nest:

- They build their nest in a tree
- They use dead grass and twigs to build their nest
- It takes 13 days to build the nest

Eggs:

- Their eggs are light blue sometimes a little green or sky blue
- They have 3 to 5 eggs
- Egg Length: 1.1-1.2 inches
- Egg Width: 0.8 inches

Food:

- They eat fruit
- They eat earthworms, insects and snails
- They rarely eat small snakes

Did You Know?

- They are common in North American and they are popular for their red breast
- The American Robin is the state bird of Connecticut, Michigan & Wisconsin

Voice/Song: They sing in the morning during spring and summer. Their notes rise and fall in pitch caroling.

Madelyn & Sean

White
headed

Curved beak



It's beak is
yellow

It has a
white tail

I am a Bald Eagle. I like to eat fish. The Bald Eagle needs a strong and curved beak to catch the fish.



Bald Eagle

Habitat:

- You can find Bald Eagles near lakes, rivers, marshes and coasts.
- Also in forest that are near water

Physical Description

- They call it a Bald Eagle because they have white feathers on its head and a white tail.
- It has a large hooked beak

Nest:

- The bald eagle egg is the biggest nest ever
- Nest can be as tall as 2-4 feet and as wide as 5-6 feet
- It can take up to 3 months to build a nest

Eggs:

- 1-3 eggs
- The bald eagle eggs are the biggest eggs ever
- Egg color: Dull white
- Egg Length: 2.3- 3.3 inches
- Egg Width: 1.9-2.5 inches

Food:

- The Bald Eagle likes to eat fish
- Rabbits
- Birds
- Crabs

Did You Know?

- The Bald Eagle is the national emblem of the United States since 1782

Voice/Song: It sounds like this co co

Landon, Maya, Aaron

White chest
and belly

Bright blue
crest



Sharp Black
Beak

Perching
Feet

I am a Blue Jay. My family and I are
always dressed in blue and black plumage.
I am very noisy.



Blue Jay

Habitat:

- Found in woods, towns and cities
- Found in all kinds of forests, particularly oak trees

Physical Description:

- Blue Crest
- Black necklace
- Bold white spots on wings and tail
- Perching feet

Nest:

- Nest in thick outer branches in a deciduous or coniferous tree about 10-25 feet off the ground
- Made of cups of twigs, grass and sometimes mud lined with rootlets

Eggs:

- Egg length: between 1-1.3 inches to 2.5-3.3 inches
- Egg width: 0.7-0.9 inches
- Egg color: Bluish or light brown with brownish spots

Food:

- Blue Jays eat insects, bees, wasps and beetles
- They eat seeds
- They store acorns on ground for later. At bird feeders, they favor sunflowers seed and suet.

Did You Know?

- Thousands of Blue Jays migrate in flocks along the Great Lakes and Atlantic Coasts, but much about their migration remains a mystery!
- The oldest known wild, banded Blue Jay lived to be at least 17 years, 6 months old.

Voice/Song: Their song last longer than 2 minutes! Their sounds are jeer, clicks, chucks, whirrs and whines.

Rachel & Gabriel

Mohawk with
feathers

Reddish
Beak



Red breast

Black mask
around bill

Hi, I am a cardinal. I have a reddish bill. I also have a black mask around my eye, a bright red body and the feathers on my head look like a Mohawk. I sometimes attack my reflection. I like to eat seeds, spiders and insects. I live in Southern and Northern U.S. I also live in the desert.



CARDINAL

Habitat:

- Parks
- Edge of forest
- Fields
- In winter you see flocks of cardinals flying
- United states, Southern U.S and deserts

Physical Description:

- Songbird
- Red on body
- Black mask
- Male has thick bill

Nest:

- Vines
- On cactus
- Trees, leaves
- Twigs
- Bark strips
- Grass

Eggs:

- Egg with 0.7/0.8 in
- Egg length 0.9/1.1 in
- Brown
- Spotted
- Clutch size 2/5 eggs

Food:

- Fruit
- Seeds
- Spiders, Insects
- Caterpillars

Did You Know?

- Attacks their reflection
- Cardinal same family as sparrows
- Only species of females that sing

Voice/Song: The voice sounds like "what cheer" "what cheer" and tweet, tweet, tweet! The cardinal voice is very loud.

Leena, Monika, Emma & Calum

Long Beak

Ruby Colored
Throat



Pointy Tail

Flash of
green and red

HI, I am a Ruby Throated Hummingbird. I am a common hummingbird. I have very long Beak / Bill. I drink nectar and am attracted to red or orange flowers, tree sap, and insects. I have a nice ruby throat. I give birth to 1-3 eggs at a time. I live in gardens so look out for me in gardens. Bye!



Ruby-Throated Hummingbird

Habitat:

- It lives in meadows, backyards, stream borders, orchards, old fields & forest edges.
- In their tropical wintering grounds, Ruby-Throated Hummingbirds live in groves, dry forests, scrubs, hedgerows, & citrus.

Physical Description:

- Males have a bright fire red throat.
- Females have a white throat.
- They have a flash of red & green.
- It has a long bill/beak.

Nest:

- 10 - 40 feet above the ground.
- Size of a large thimble
- Made of thistle, spider, silk and sometimes pine resin.
- The nest takes 6-10 days to finish.
- 2 inches across and 1 inch deep.

Eggs:

- Egg Description: Tiny, white, weighing about half a gram, or less than one fifth of an ounce.
- Clutch size 1-3 eggs at a time.
- Incubation days 12-14 days.

Food:

- Nectar attracted to red or orange.
- Mosquitoes, gnats, fruit flies, and small bees; also eat spiders.

Did You Know?

- Common hummingbird.
- Female has a white throat.
- Nest is made of extension cords, wires, and chain.

Voice/Song:

Humming sound, chirping sound, and chee- dit

Andrew & Lucas

Smaller than
a pigeon

Light gray
belly



Red legs

Black spot
on neck

Hi, I'm a Mourning Dove. I have a gray belly, red legs, a pointy beak and I have gray wings too! I LOVE seeds! I'm smaller than a pigeon. Unfortunately I look like other birds so you can find me because I have a black spot on my neck and a long pointed tail!



Mourning Dove

Habitat:

- Open areas
- Forest edges
- Woodlands
- Grasslands & Fields
- Suburban areas

Physical Description:

- Slender tail
- Small head
- Male-length 9.1-13.4in, wingspan 17.7in, weight 3.4-6oz
- Female-wingspan 17.7in, weight 3.5-5.5oz

Nest:

- Twigs & Roots
- Branches
- Vines
- On the ground
- Around humans
- Gutters

Eggs:

- Two eggs are four inches long!
- Egg color: White
- Width- 0.8-0.9 in
- Length- 1-1.2 in

Food:

- 99 percent seeds, 1 percent invertebrates, grains, berries, peanuts, & snails

Did You Know?

- People eat Mourning Doves and kill them! The oldest known Mourning Dove was 31 years and 4 months old.

Voice/Song: perch-coo and coo-oo = Male

Leo & Noam

White belly

Dark back



Yellow beak

Black wings

Hi, I am a peregrine falcon. I am the fastest animal in the world. My average speed is 240 miles per hour. I often eat songbirds, mallard ducks and pigeons. My wingspan is 47 inches.



Peregrine falcon

Habitat:

- Cliffs
- Mountains
- Skyscrapers
- Bridges
- Water towers

Physical Description:

- Large
- Dark
- Talons
- Black head
- Long tail

Nest:

- Dirt
- Sticks
- Twigs

Eggs:

- 3-5 eggs
- The small eggs are 2.2 inches
- The eggs have spots and blotches
- The colors of their eggs are cream, red, purple and brown

Food:

- Pigeons
- Song birds
- Mallard ducks
- Rodents

Did You Know?

People train peregrine falcons to hunt. When people use peregrine falcons to hunt, it is called falconry. Peregrine falcon's name means wanderer.

Voice/Song: Cweet Cweet Cweet!

Aerin, Louie, Andrea & Thomas

Curved Beak

White chest



Rounded wings

Red tail

Hi, I am a Red-tailed Hawk. I am the most common Hawk in North America. I soar around big open fields. I eat small animals like voles and rabbits. I have a white chest and tan eyes. It is not common to find me in your backyard (unless your backyard is huge).



Red-tailed Hawk

Habitat:

- Fields
- Woodlands
- Prairie groves
- Mountains
- Pastures
- Roadsides
- Parks

Physical Description:

- Red tail
- Sharp, strong beak
- Sharp claws
- Yellow feet
- Tan eyes
- A large dark back
- Rounded wings

Nest:

- Leaves
- Sticks
- Trees good view
- Window ledges

Eggs:

- Clutch size 1-5 eggs
- Incubation Period: 28-35 days
- They can be white and black in color, blotched or speckled, brown or purple.

Food:

- Small animals such as voles, rats, mice, rabbits, chipmunks, squirrels,

Did You Know?

I am almost extinct because people killed 2.3 million of my family.

Voice/Song:

Kee-eeeeee-arr. Courtship (The males get females by making the chwirr)

Lennon, Cosi & Leah

White Belly

Black and
White Wing



Yellow Eyes

Sharp
Talons

Male owls barred brown get whiter as they get older. Females get dark markings for life. Snowy owl's have territorial breeding places. They eat more than 1600 lemmings a year. They usually weigh about 4 pounds.



Snowy Owl

Habitat:

- The snowy owl lives in the arctic tundra, great plains, airport fields and beach dunes
- Snowy owls like treeless places and wide open spaces

Physical Description:

- Yellow eyes
- White feathers with black specks
- Little black beak
- Feathery feet

Nest:

- On the ground
- Owls may reuse their nest
- Ball shaped nest
- 18-25 days to build a nest
- Female builds nest

Eggs:

- 3-11 eggs in the nest
- Egg length: 2.2 in
- Egg width: 1.8 in
- Egg color: White

Food:

- Small mammals
- Rodents
- Lemmings
- Small birds

Did You Know?

- Snowy Owl's have very good vision.
- Snowy Owl's do a dive called the aerial dive.
- If successful they can swallow their prey in one gulp.

Voice/Song: hhhhoooooooooooooooooooo

Viola and Sahana

White Belly

Striped
head



Red spot on
head

White speckles
on back

I am a downy woodpecker and I peck wood. I live in open woodlands in North America. I eat insect's beetles and caterpillars. I also live in some of Central America. I make a cavity/hole with my beak in a tree, then I drop woodchips in the hole and then my nest is done. I lay one egg per day to lay 5 eggs and then my husband/male downy woodpecker sits on the eggs for 12 days.



Downy Woodpecker

Habitat:

- Open woodlands
- Open woodlots
- North America
- Some of central America

Physical Description:

- Black on the back and side with white speckles on the black feathers
- The head has black and white stripes with red on the tip of the head

Nest:

- Make a cavity/hole in the tree then drop woodchips in the nest
- Make with their beak by pecking wood with their beak

Eggs:

- Lay one egg per day for up to 5 eggs. Sometimes up to 8 eggs but it is rare though.
- Male sits on eggs for 12 days

Food:

- Downy woodpeckers mostly eat insects, beetles, ants and caterpillars.
- They also eat eggs of insects and are likely to feed on bird feeders.

Did You Know?

- Downy woodpeckers are about 6 or 7 inches long. They're usually perching on trees in parks.
- The oldest known Downy Woodpecker lived to be at least 11 years 11 months old.

Voice/Song: They have a whinnying call that lasts for 2 seconds. When they are excited, they call a pik note and repeat!